1. A method of enhancing apoptosis in a mammal, said mammal diagnosed as having a proliferative disease, said method comprising:

providing a transgene encoding an antisense RNA, said antisense nucleic acid is complementary to a portion of a mammalian IAP nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: human X-linked IAP (XIAP) (SEQ ID NO:3), human IAP-1 (HIAP-1) (SEQ ID NO:5), human IAP-2 (HIAP-2) (SEQ ID NO:7); murine XIAP (SEQ ID NO:9), murine HIAP-1 (SEQ ID NO:11), and murine HIAP-2 (SEQ ID NO:13).

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) is human IAP-1 (HIAP-1).

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) is human IAP-2 (HIAP-2).

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) is human X-linked IAP (XIAP).

5. A method of inducing apoptosis in a cell, said cell in a mammal diagnosed with a proliferative disease, said method comprising administering to said cell An antisense nucleic acid of length sufficient to inhibit an inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) biological activity *in vitro*, wherein said antisense nucleic acid is complementary to a portion of a mammalian IAP nucleic acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: human X-linked IAP (XIAP) (SEQ ID NO:3), human IAP-1 (HIAP-1) (SEQ ID NO:5), human IAP-2 (HIAP-2) (SEQ ID NO:7);

murine XIAP (SEQ ID NO:9), murine HIAP-1 (SEQ ID NO:11), and murine HIAP-2 (SEQ ID NO:13).

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) is human IAP-1 (HIAP-1).

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) is human IAP-2 (HIAP-2).

8. The method of claim 5, wherein said inhibitor of apoptosis (IAP) is human X-linked IAP (XIAP).